THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) No proposal relating to environmental developmental works in West Bengal is pending consideration in the Ministry of Environment & Forests.

(b) During last two years an amount of Rs 171.975 lakhs has been released to Sunderbans Biosphere Reserve. Additionally, the revised cost estimate of Rs 135.44 crores for Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) Project at Calcutta Leather Complex under Ganga Action Plan Phase-II has been approved in November, 2007. The said project is funded on 50:50 cost sharing basis with the State Government.

National Network for research on climate changes

322. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AMD FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had formed a national network of 127 educational institutions to conduct research on climate changes and to provide solutions to farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this national network has submitted any report: and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment is currently engaged in the preparation of Indiaus Second National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. A network of 127 institutions has been engaged countrywide belonging to Universities, Research and Development Institutions, autonomous institutions of the government, Non governmental organization and private institutions for studies on various aspects of climate change. These include greenhouse gas emissions of anthropogenic origin from sectors such as Energy, Industry, Agriculture, Forestry and Waste, Assessment and impact of projected climate change on key sectors such as Agriculture, Water, Natural ecosystems, Health, Extreme climate events, etc. The findings of the study on climate change scenarios would be relevant for agriculture sector and farmers.

(c) and (d) The network has not submitted any report

Construction of a new dam in Mullaperiyar

323. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:
SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has given permission to Kerala Government for undertaking a forest survey for construction of a new dam in the Mullaperiyar reservoir area; and